

CLEAN VERSION OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice Amended) A billing system for automatically charging a call to a predetermined
2 telephone line, the billing system comprising:

3 a. a service configured to receive an incoming call from a calling party and to
4 initiate an outgoing call to a called party;
5 b. a switch coupled to the predetermined telephone line configured to store billing
6 information in response to a triggering event; and
7 c. a control point coupled to the service, the calling party, and the switch wherein the
8 control point is configured to activate the triggering event in response to receiving
9 an appropriate signal from the service and to transfer the incoming call from the
10 service to the called party such that the calling party and the called party are
11 connected, wherein the billing information corresponding to the incoming call is
12 stored in the switch and the stored billing information is used to charge the
13 predetermined telephone line.

1. Sub 2 (Twice Amended) A method of billing a call to a predetermined telephone line wherein a
2 user initiates the call from a calling party to a called party through a service, comprising the
3 following steps:

4 a. conveying data from the service to a control point, wherein the data indicates the
5 predetermined telephone line, and the called party, and the calling party;
6 b. temporarily routing the call to a switch associated with the predetermined
7 telephone line;
8 c. forming a new call originating from the calling party and terminating at the called
9 party;
10 d. storing billing information related to the new call in the switch associated with the
11 predetermined telephone line in response to temporarily routing the call to the
12 switch; and
13 e. automatically billing the new call to the predetermined telephone line using the
14 stored billing information.

1 13. (Twice Amended) A method of billing a call to a predetermined telephone line wherein a
2 user initiates the call through a service from a calling party to a called party, comprising the
3 following steps:
4 a. conveying call data from the service to a control point wherein the control point is
5 coupled to the calling party, the predetermined telephone line, and the called
6 party;
7 b. terminating the call to the service;
8 c. forming a new call to link the calling party to the called party;
9 d. storing billing information related to the new call on a switch associated with the
10 predetermined telephone line in response to a signal initiated by the service; and
11 e. automatically billing the new call to the predetermined telephone line using the
12 stored billing information.

1 21. (New) The billing system according to claim 1 wherein the calling party is not at the
2 predetermined telephone line.
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1 22. (New) The billing system according to claim 1 wherein the calling party is the
2 predetermined telephone line.
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1 23. (New) The method according to claim 13 wherein the calling party is not at the
2 predetermined telephone line.
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1 24. (New) The method according to claim 13 wherein the calling party is the predetermined
2 telephone line.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please add new Claims 21-24.

1 1. (Twice Amended) A billing system for automatically charging a call to a predetermined
2 telephone line, the billing system comprising:

3 a. a service configured to receive an incoming call from a calling party and to
4 initiate an outgoing call to a called party;
5 b. a switch coupled to the predetermined telephone line configured to store billing
6 information in response to a triggering event; and
7 c. a control point coupled to the service, the calling party, and the switch wherein the
8 control point is configured to activate the triggering event in response to receiving
9 an appropriate signal from the service and to transfer the incoming call from the
10 service to the called party such that the calling party and the called party are
11 connected, wherein the billing information corresponding to the incoming call is
12 stored in the switch and the stored billing information is used to charge the
13 predetermined telephone line.

1 6. (Twice Amended) A method of billing a call to a predetermined telephone line wherein a
2 user initiates the call from a calling party to a called party through a service, comprising the
3 following steps:

4 a. conveying data from the service to a control point, wherein the data indicates the
5 predetermined telephone line, and the called party, and the calling party;
6 b. temporarily routing the call to a switch associated with the predetermined
7 telephone line;
8 c. forming a new call originating from the calling party and terminating at the called
9 party;
10 d. storing billing information related to the new call in the switch associated with the
11 predetermined telephone line in response to temporarily routing the call to the
12 switch; and

13 e. automatically billing the new call to the predetermined telephone line using the
14 stored billing information.

1 13. (Twice Amended) A method of billing a call to a predetermined telephone line wherein a
2 user initiates the call through a service from a calling party to a called party, comprising the
3 following steps:

- 4 a. conveying call data from the service to a control point wherein the control point is
5 coupled to the calling party, the predetermined telephone line, and the called
6 party;
- 7 b. terminating the call to the service;
- 8 c. forming a new call to link the calling party to the called party;
- 9 d. storing billing information related to the new call on a switch associated with the
10 predetermined telephone line in response to a signal initiated by the service; and
- 11 e. automatically billing the new call to the predetermined telephone line using the
12 stored billing information.

1 21. (New) The billing system according to claim 1 wherein the calling party is not at the
2 predetermined telephone line.

1 22. (New) The billing system according to claim 1 wherein the calling party is the
2 predetermined telephone line.

1 23. (New) The method according to claim 13 wherein the calling party is not at the
2 predetermined telephone line.

1 24. (New) The method according to claim 13 wherein the calling party is the predetermined
2 telephone line.